FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 164

23 August 1978

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

President Morales Addresses Delegates at Naval Conference A 1 1/A5
Massera Calls for Unity A 1 1/A5

ARGENTINA

Communique Corrects Statement Attributed to Naval Commander B 1 1/A6
Entire Parana Provincial Cabinet Resigns B 1 1/A6
Argentina To Propose Exporting Nuclear Technology B 1 1/A6

BOLIVIA

New Bolivian Armed Forces Chief Sworn In C 1 1/A7
Pereda Discusses Bolivian Political, Economic Events C 2 1/A8
Briefs: Under Secretary Daza Resigns; Venezuelan Special Envoy Arrives C 2 1/A8

BRAZIL

Paper Says Differences Remain Over Plutonium Deal [JORNAL DO BRASIL 17 Aug] D 1 1/A9
Netherlands Denial D 1 1/A9

COLOMBIA

Defense Minister Rejects FARC Prisoner Exchange Proposal F 1 1/A10
Curfew Imposed After FARC Attack on Vasquez Region F 1 1/A10
Former Foreign Minister Analyzes Colombia's 'Secret Diplomacy' F 1 1/A10
[EL ESPECTADOR 20 Aug]
Delegates Outline Positions at Bogota Coffee Summit F 3 1/A12
PCC CC Meeting Discusses Domestic Issues, Outlines Tasks F 4 1/A13
Briefs: Military Appointments; New Government Officials F 4 1/A13

PERU

State of Emergency in Effect in Mining Areas J 1 1/A14
Peruvian To Mediate Honduran-Salvadoran Question J 1 1/A14
Foreign Ministries Examining Possible Pinochet-Morales Meeting J 2 1/B1
Navy Minister Reiterates Promise of Elections J 2 1/B1
Briefs: Venezuelan Minister To Visit J 2 1/B1

URUGUAY

Uruguay's Position Remains Unchanged on Law of Sea K 1 1/B2
Health Minister Plans Visit to USSR, Hungary K 1 1/B2

VENEZUELA

Venezuelan Ambassador L 1 1/B3
EL NACIONAL Analyzes Luis Herrera's Oil Program [16 Aug] L 1 1/B3
Spanish Prime Minister To Visit in September L 2 1/B4

MEXICO

Mexico Proposes Strategy To Limit Conventional Weapons M 1 1/B5

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Nicaraguan-Costa Rican Border Closed Temporarily P 1 1/B6
Government Will Accept Sandinist Prisoners P 1 1/B6
Calderon Fournier Reviews Results of Mexico Visit P 1 1/B6

NICARAGUA

Sandinist Guerrillas Attack National Palace; Hostages Taken P 2 1/B7
Noon Attack P 2 1/B7
Details on Seizure P 2 1/B7
Archbishop, Bishops To Mediate P 2 1/B7
At Least 15 Wounded P 3 1/B8
Military Issues Communique P 3 1/B8
Further on Communique P 3 1/B8
Sandinist Demands Issued P 4 1/B9
FSLN Leader Interviewed P 5 1/B10
Additional Interview Comments P 5 1/B10
Further Remarks P 6 1/B11
Report From National Palace P 7 1/B12
Later Report P 7 1/B12
Most of Country Calm P 9 1/B14
Evacuation of National Palace P 9 1/B14
Employees Allowed to Leave P 9 1/B14
Somoza Relatives Held Hostage P 10 1/C1
International Communism Blamed P 10 1/C1
Government Responds to Demands P 10 1/C1
Guerrillas Prepared To Execute Hostages P 11 1/C2
Names of Dead Given P 12 1/C3
International Airport Closed Indefinitely P 12 1/C3

DOMINICAN REPBULIC

Dominican Armed Forces, Government Personnel Appointments [EL CARIBE 17 Aug] R 1 1/C4
Communist Groups Oppose PRD Government, Will Operate Publicly R 1 1/C4

P-Ex 710: FBIS-LAT-78-164

FBIS-LAT-78-164
Wednesday
23 August 1978
Vol VI No 164

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

LATIN AMERICA

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

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PRESIDENT MORALES ADDRESSES DELEGATES AT NAVAL CONFERENCE

PY221541Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] President Francisco Morales Bermudez has emphasized the need to coordinate efforts among the countries of the Americas in order to overcome the problems of the current economic situation affecting the world. These remarks were made during a meeting with the naval commanders who are here to take part in the ninth Inter-American Naval Conference. The meeting was held in the government house.

Morales Bermudez hoped that friendship and cooperation, which must always prevail between the countries of the Americas, will be strengthened. He indicated that Peruvian foreign policy is always aimed at strengthening the good relations which must always exist among our countries. The president also said that he is certain that the conference will be successful. In conclusion, he asked that the naval commanders convey to their navies, their armed forces and their governments, the greetings and friendship of the Peruvian Government and people.

Chilean Admiral Toribio Merino, representing the delegates, said that the ninth Inter-American Naval Conference will work for the strengthening of relations in the Americas because this is the basis of the future. He said that the countries of the Americas now in development will have a great influence in the world and that future generations will recognize the efforts now being made by those who have the great responsibility to lead the destinies of these countries, members of the conference.

Massera Calls for Unity

PY221508Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2230 GMT 21 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Lima, 21 Aug--The commander of the Argentine Navy and member of the Argentine Government junta, Adm Emilio Massera, made a speech today during the inauguration of the ninth Inter-American Navy Conference, stressing the future importance of the continent and calling for continental unity. After saying that this is the last time he will attend an event of this kind--in reference to his retirement--the Argentine Navy chief noted that "neither the seas, nations nor ideas go into retirement and this is the reason they count, demanding from us and our successors continuity and talent to keep traditions in the defense of Western values."

He then said that these were his modest ideas about the continent's future: "We must be at this time more than ever aware that the center of history is shifting westward faster than we can anticipate, as the East becomes exhausted. When that center reaches the Americas, the lands and seas of our nations will become the stage of the future. Massera then said: "I do not propose the blurring of national identities, but we must realize that we stand to benefit if we are united and integrated when that future arrives. "We are an impressive source of wealth in the world and united we will have at our command the seas' unpredictable resources as well as its unimaginable wealth."

COMMUNIQUE CORRECTS STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO NAVAL COMMANDER

PY221555Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1333 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug--A communique issued by the Argentine Navy last night denied statements which were attributed in Lima to Adm Emilio Massera. The communique signed by Capt Jose Montoya, navy public information chief, was addressed to the AFP director in Buenos Aires. The communique corrects statements attributed to Admiral Massera in a AFP dispatch from Lima on 20 August that Argentina is discussing the recognition of Chile as an Atlantic country. Argentina has a border dispute with Chile regarding sovereignty over the southern islands, and its basic position is that Argentina has exclusive sovereignty over the southern Atlantic and Chile over the southern Pacific.

ENTIRE PARANA PROVINCIAL CABINET RESIGNS

PY221700Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Parana, Argentina--The press office of government house has reported that all members of the provincial cabinet have presented their resignations. So far those presented by the ministers of government, justice and education, economy, and public works and services have been accepted.

ARGENTINA TO PROPOSE EXPORTING NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY

PY230319Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2040 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Aug--Reliable sources have stated here that Argentina will propose nuclear complementation agreements to other developing countries at the technical cooperation conference of those countries to be held here on 31 August under the auspices of the United Nations. According to these sources, Argentine officials hope to propose that the agreements be consolidated without the intervention of industrialized countries. Argentina is the Latin American country with the greatest degree of development in nuclear affairs.

Argentine technicians and officials told AFP that the UN conference will simultaneously cover two areas: political and scientific-technological. They also indicated that as in all conferences organized by the United Nations, charges of some delegations will attach political significance to the conference. Nevertheless, they also asserted that the occasion will be appropriate for technical and scientific delegations to exchange their experiences and to discuss possible joint activities.

In this regard, they pointed out that the Argentine contribution will be in nuclear affairs, and that the country has technology appropriate to the needs and characteristics of the developing countries which is different from the technology of industrialized nations. They added that this specialization in technology has allowed Argentina to successfully compete in providing technology to countries with less developed technology. As an example, they mentioned the agreement through which Argentina provides aid and technology to Peru for the construction of an experimental reactor which is already in operation. They indicated that agreements such as the Peruvian-Argentine one can also be repeated with other Latin American, African or Asian countries consolidating a horizontal technological complementation with developing countries which may replace the vertical relations proposed by the developed world.

They also indicated that the conference organized by the United Nations might yield the basis for bilateral agreements between conuntries of the same region aimed at complementing financial, scientific and human efforts in technological research. This would also avoid the absurd duplication of efforts, seeking at the same time common research or technological development in several Third World countries.

VI. 23 Aug 78

NEW BOLIVIAN ARMED FORCES CHIEF SWORN IN

PY2219022Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Not one day after, not one day before. The government which I preside over will remain in power. Our objective is to achieve the democratization process in which we are engaged. This was stated by the president at a ceremony held in the flagroom of the Miraflores Military Barracks, when the commander in-chief of the armed forces, Gen Angel Hugo Salmon Cordoba, was sworn in. This military position was formerly held by Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez.

During his speech, the president cited the need to implement a new type of democracy in the country.

[Begin Pereda recording] Our commitment to build a true democratic society is permanent. We have given our word, and we will fulfill it without any limitation or restriction. [end recording]

The president indicated the need to elaborate an appropriate outline for the electoral process that Bolivian citizens demand. He emphasized the importance of the Bolivian Armed Forces as a determining factor for the unity of Bolivians, particularly at this moment. The main part of his speech dealt with the commitment to implement the democratization process within the set time.

[Begin Pereda recording] The government which I preside over--and we have stated this at the national and international level--has as its main objective the implementation of a new type of democracy, on the basis of the special findings of the recent electoral experience. The road toward a democratic society is difficult but challenging. We have already taken some important steps as part of our (?conditions). We are creating the conditions which any individual needs to thoroughly fulfill his (?overall) goals.

There will be no dangerous rush. Policies have already been established. Everything will be accomplished in due time. The schedule will depend on the seriousness of the (?experiences) on which we are working and of the tasks that we have to accomplish, so that the democratization process may be serious and lasting.

The government which I preside over will not stay for a day after or a day before the time needed to achieve the democratic mission which was established. Within the framework of these briefly stated ideas, I am sure that the armed forces will meet the difficult demands of our time and that, even in the most difficult circumstances, the armed forces' commanders will be the worthy leaders of an institution which was created to serve the fatherland. [end recording]

The new armed forces commander in chief thanked the president for the appointment and stated: When we are approaching the centennial of our loss of the coast due to greed and usurpation, Bolivia must be more united than ever.

Gen Angel Salmon, who until yesterday held the position of defense minister, also stated: The specter of war is again looming ominously over the southern part of the continent. Our geopolitical position makes us vulnerable to involvement in any problems that may arise, and the possibilities of an armed encounter are not remote.

The ceremony at which this official was sworn in was held at 1000 today in the Miraflores Military Barracks, and it was attended by national and military authorities.

PEREDA DISCUSSES BOLIVIAN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC EVENTS

PY222213Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The sovereignty of the people is shown through elections, stated the Bolivian President, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun. He maintained that a national agreement will be reached with the various political currents of the country for future elections.

[Passage indistinct] He also mentioned the economic situation of the country, terming it difficult.

[Passage indistinct] Regarding the differences that have arisen because the future electoral activity does not include an official candidate, President Juan Pereda reiterated that his government would not support an official candidate. [passage indistinct]

Referring to the electoral timetable announced by his government on 6 August, he said that the rules of the game have been established and that everyone will be able to participate in it.

He emphasized the importance of humility in the Bolivian people in this electoral program, because there are two main problems to be overcome. One is the national redemocratization process and the other is closely related to the economic field.

In response to questions by reporters, General Pereda acknowledged that the country's current economic situation is not very encouraging.

[Begin Pereda recording] According to the report released by the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA], the country's economic situation can be termed difficult and the necessary measures must be taken to put our economy back on course to guarantee the stability of our currency and the steadfastness of the country's overall economic program for the Bolivian people. [end recording]

He also said that our nation is enduring the repercussions of the devaluation of the dollar, because Bolivia is not an island and fluctuations in this field also adversely affect the people.

BRIEFS

UNDER SECRETARY DAZA RESIGNS--Communications Undersecretary Manuel Daza has irreversibly presented his resignation. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Aug 78 p 3 PY]

VENEZUELAN SPECIAL ENVOY ARRIVES--Venezuela has sent Special Envoy (Reinaldo Pinedo) to reconcile Venezuelan and Bolivian allotments with the Andean pact auto program. (Pinedo) stated that still another objective of his meeting is to evaluate the implementation of the accords signed between presidents Lanser and Perez in 1975. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY]

PAPER SAYS DIFFERENCES REMAIN OVER PLUTONIUM DEAL

PY181326Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Aug 78 p 27 PY

[Text] Brasilia--There are still disagreements between the Government of Brazil and those of the Netherlands, Great Britain and the FRG--partners in the Urenco consortium, which will supply enriched uranium to the Angra 2 and 3 plants--over the agreement regarding plutonium deposits to be applied within the framework of the contract signed between Urenco and the Brazilian Nuclear Corporation.

This information, which was released by a high diplomatic source, justifies the delay in the signing of the agreement which will have to be signed pursuant to a document signed by the four governments in January. This document determined that a multilateral agreement on safeguards will have to be negotiated within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Thus far, the Brazilian Government has not received any official response from the three Urenco members on a draft agreement it sent them a week ago. This proposal, sent to the Netherlands, Great Britain and the FRG, introduced some changes in the original draft agreement sent by Urenco to Itamaraty 10 days ago, since Itamaraty feels that the mechanisms of the original draft meant new requirements on safeguards.

The Urenco members have stated, however, that these were not new requirements--as claimed by the Brazilian Government--but are principles which are considered essential by the London club countries (the atomic club). In its turn, the Brazilian Government prepared its own draft agreement, which was forwarded to Urenco a week ago, proposing some amendments to Urenco's original proposal.

Netherlands Denial

PY181801Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1508 GMT 18 Aug 78 PY

[Text] The Hague, 18 Aug--A spokesman of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry said here today that the regulation for storing plutonium in Brazil is no longer an obstacle to reaching an agreement on Urenco's supplying enriched uranium to that country. Urenco is an entity for the enrichment of uranium owned by the Netherlands, Great Britain and the FRG.

The spokesman added that the experts of these three countries, meeting here since the beginning of this week, will only have to establish the requirements needed by Brazil so its orders can be filled. This meeting is the continuation of the meeting held in Brasilia on the same matter a month ago.

The Netherlands Foreign Ministry, through this declaration, denied reports from Brazil that disagreements between this country and the three suppliers of uranium still exist with regard to the storage of plutonium. In addition the Netherlands has already granted the necessary financial guarantee for the enlargement of the Urenco factory which will deliver the first supply to Brazil in 1981. In order to fill this order, Urenco will have to increase its productive capacity from 200 to 600 tons.

DEFENSE MINISTRY REJECTS FARC PRISONER EXCHANGE PROPOSAL

PA2214937 Bogota Caracol Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The National Defense Ministry has announced that it will reject the request made by the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces [FARC] regarding an exchange of U.S. biologist Richard Starr for guerrillas Carlos Reyes Nino and Jaime Guaraca. National Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho Leyva said that he is aware of the FARC document from Cuba, but emphasized that the guerrilla request will not be accepted.

Richard Starr has been held by the group headed by Manuel Marulanda Velez which kidnaped him 16 months ago in Sierra la Macarena. It has been established that Reyes Nino and Guaraca are being held in Quirama and are accused of many crimes against enlisted men and officers of the army.

CURFEW IMPOSED AFTER FARC ATTACK IN VASQUEZ REGION

PA2019144 Bogota Caracol Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 20 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The state of law and a curfew have been in effect since yesterday afternoon in a wide area of Vasquez, site of one of the most bloody guerrilla incursions in the past few months. In the attack, members of the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) killed four soldiers and seriously injured five others.

The drastic measures were imposed to facilitate the authorities' investigation of the incident. Meanwhile, regular army troops, supported by airborne troops, are continuing an exhaustive search for the guerrillas, who fled into the mountains on the border between Boyaca and Antioquia departments, following the course of the Minero River.

Military sources report that so far there has been no contact with the guerrillas, who are apparently led by Manuel Marulanda Velez, alias "Tiro Fijo," who has broad knowledge of the area and of guerrilla tactics.

FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER ANALYZES COLOMBIA'S 'SECRET DIPLOMACY'

PA2218537 Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 20 Aug 78 p 2A PA

[Article by former Colombian Foreign Minister Alfredo Vazquez Carrizos: 'Secret Diplomacy']

[Excerpts] Foreign policy has maintained a "low profile," or a secondary place, on the front pages of the newspapers, which dedicate their banner headlines to domestic politics. As a good analyst of this situation, new President Julio Cesar Turbay did not explain his international policy in too much detail in his 7 August speech which contained his government program.

Everybody is familiar with the constitutional powers of the chief of state, who is in charge of directing the country's foreign policy. Nonetheless, it seems that over the past 4 years a system of secret diplomacy has prevailed in Colombia and that the concept of the parties' democratic participation in the maturation of that foreign policy was not apparent in the government of the outgoing president and his foreign minister, Indalecio Lievano Aguirre. During the past 4 years, the Advisory Commission, which has traditionally played a central role in studies of our international activities, was relegated to oblivion. Rather, the chief of state and his minister chose to make solo efforts without taking into account outside or advisory opinions.

There is no need to violate the constitution, merely to narrow the circle of secret diplomacy. Three serious matters must be considered:

1. Six years after signing it--and we signed in Colombia's name--the United States has not ratified the 1978 treaty establishing our sovereignty over the Quitasueno, Roncador and Serrana cays located in the San Andres and Providencia Archipelago. Approved by the National Congress in law No 52 of 1973, the treaty is in danger of not being fully implemented.

This is an abnormal situation that is becoming disturbing. It is related to certain Nicaraguan diplomatic pressures in Washington, where despite his loss of prestige at home, President Anastasio Somoza still maintains valuable influence. The Nicaraguan president himself has dared to publicly claim Quitasueno Cay. Meanwhile, the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee is concealing the treaty, calmly awaiting developments until some conflict--currently nonexistent between Colombia and Nicaragua--develops. Since wherever there is petroleum there are problems in the capitalist world, it is not unimaginable that certain oil companies would sympathize with President Somoza's somewhat illusive cause.

2. Regarding Venezuela, the press has reported on consultations with neighboring country's parties regarding a Colombian proposal, the exact contents of which have not been disclosed. What can hardly be explained is that its success depended upon the unanimous consent of all Venezuelan parties, including the opposition. Once vetoed by the opposition, the project was left in limbo. But there is even more: We very much fear that Colombia's past administration impulsively linked itself with the "historic bays" thesis, which is one of the aspects under dispute with Venezuela.

Article No 3 of the 20 November 1976 agreement with General Torrijos on the delimitation of Colombian and Panamanian marine and submarine areas regards the "great gulf of Panama" as a "historic bay," which contradicts our Venezuelan position. On 1 August Venezuelan writer Pedro Jose Lara Pena, a member of the Academy of Political and Social Sciences, stated that "the historic gulf of Venezuela is not negotiable with Colombia." It is merely a private opinion, but it is also an example of the way people on the other side of Zulia think.

3. Regarding Panama, the matter looks like a diplomatic crossword puzzle as a result of the variety of formulas that Colombia has approved in the 24 March 1975 act, the notes of 30 November 1977 and the recent 14 July 1978 agreement.

In short, Colombia offered "to resign" its rights as established in the Urrutia-Thompson treaty of 1914, while Panama expressed its "intention to reach an agreement." The past administration's starting point was erroneous. In no way can one accept the abandonment of a treaty currently in effect in exchange for a promise. From that mistake we went on to make yet another one--that of formalizing the turning over [entrega] of the treaty through the 1977 note exchange, which establishes the date and time for a final Colombian-Panamanian agreement as "noon, Panamanian time, on 31 December 1999." Even within the framework of the most optimistic prediction, nobody can predict that General Torrijos' administration will last until 2000, when there may be other Panamanian rulers who may feel differently, i.e., who may feel that Colombia has no rights.

There are, therefore, several problems: 1) the Colombian president's authority to prematurely terminate a solemn treaty that is currently in effect; 2) the disadvantages posed by the entire negotiation and the lack of support that Colombia's possible passage rights through the canal will receive in the treaty between the United States and Panama, which grants priority passage to that power alone; 3) the unconstitutionality of the procedure followed in Panama, in view of Article No 274 of the present constitution, which establishes that plebiscites are required in the case of territorial agreements.

Colombia is abandoning the railroad as an alternate transit route, while the United States is guaranteeing its right to use it. President Lopez Michelsen felt it is too old; the United States feels it is not.

Within the framework of an intelligent strategy aimed at helping solve the entire canal problem, the past administration failed because of the vagueness of the agreements reached in connection with Colombia's rights, which have been left in a vacuum. President Turbay now has the task of not leaving for the year 2000 what can be done in 1978.

DELEGATES OUTLINE POSITIONS AT BOGOTA COFFEE SUMMIT

PA2219092 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Delegates of eight Latin American coffee-producing countries today agreed to take joint action to protect fair and just price levels, avoid speculation on the world market and establish a minimum level of prices between $1.80 and $2.20 per pound. The agreement was outlined at today's installation of the extraordinary summit of coffee-producing countries which, in principle, also outlined a large-scale plan to prevent a decrease in consumption due to price fluctuations. Brazil also presented a dramatic account of its situation with 34 percent of its coffee crop next year lost due to frosts.

The following positions were adopted:

Colombia--Jaime Garcia Parra said that Colombia favors understanding between producers and consumers because a lack of cooperation hurts both, as do abrupt price fluctuations. Consumption is decreased and economic stability is affected. We should not permit artificial situations to occur that will provoke spectacular changes in the market.

Brazil--Experiencing a critical situation with production cut back by 34 percent and no stock in hand, Brazil will import coffee to supply its instant and [words indistinct] plants. There should be a joint mechanism to curb speculation. We should seek compensatory prices for the producer and just prices for the consumer

Costa Rica--We should maintain the best of relations with consumers. The increase or decrease of consumption and maximum development of our economies depend on them.

El Salvador--El Salvador supports the Colombian stand regarding respect for the norms of the international coffee agreement. It is fundamental to secure remunerative prices for the producer and fair prices for the consumer.

Guatemala--It is urgent to prevent a reduction in world consumption of coffee.

Mexico--Mexico supports the Colombian stand since regulation of prices is indispensable to stability in the coffee market.

Venezuela--We should support price protection and also market protection.

Camilo Calasanz de Magalhaes, president of the Brazilian Coffee Institute, maintained that an international regulation of coffee prices between $1.80 and $2.20 a pound would be ideal to protect both producers and consumers.

Calasanz de Magalhaes said that he believed a top price of $2.20 would not alter consumption levels in the international market. He added that a minimum price of $1.80 is adequate for producing countries. He said that at the Bogota coffee meeting, Brazil will support this range because it considers it adequate not only for Brazil but also for producing countries in general.

PCC CC MEETING DISCUSSES DOMESTIC ISSUES, OUTLINES TASKS

PA211921Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Colombia met here on [words indistinct] 17-18 August to set the party's position regarding President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's administration and outline new tasks for the popular unity party. The main report was read by [organization secretary] Alvaro Vasquez. A resolution was adopted calling for participation in the 1 September convention which will be attended by the National Opposition Union, the National Popular Alliance, the Independent Liberal Movement and the PST. It also agreed on a program to cooperate in the celebration of the appearance of the 1,000th issue of VOZ PROLETARIA and the 50th anniversary of the communist party.

BRIEFS

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS--Bogota--Gen Raul Orejuela Escobar was today confirmed as second commander of the National Army. He will be replaced as commander of the Military Institutes Brigade by Gen Miguel Vega Uribe. Gen Jaime Villarreal has been appointed commander of the 2d brigade, with headquarters in Barranquilla. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Aug 78 PA]

NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS--Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala today issued three decrees appointing two high-ranking government officials and confirming a third in his post. The officials are Carlos Bernal Telles, appointed new Colombian ambassador to the OAS, and Saul Duque, named as the new director of the National Savings Fund. Raymundo Angulo Pizarro was also confirmed as manager of the National Savings Fund. [Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Aug 78 PA]

STATE OF EMERGENY IN EFFECT IN MINING AREAS

PA221554Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1239 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[By Miguel Paredes]

[Excerpts] Lima, 22 Aug (LATIN)--A state of emergency and suspension of constitutional guarantees were in effect today in the provinces of Pasco and La Oroya in central Peru and in the port of Ilo and the town of Ilabaya in southern Peru, where the main mining centers are located. The government measure was decided by the Council of Ministers last night as a way to counteract the nationwide strike begun by 50,000 miners on 4 August. The miners are demanding reinstatement of 320 coworkers who were dismissed 1 year ago for participating in a nationwide strike.

The government said that "a climate of agitation is being promoted to produce serious disturbances to public order. This is being undertaken by individuals interested in affecting the normal development of labor activities, worsening even more the country's economic situation."

No statement was obtained from the mining federation since its leaders had been called to the interior minister's office at 2300 GMT last night, and their whereabouts were unknown. A federation spokesman said that Secretary General Victor Cuadros and Defense Secretary Maximo Paz had gone to the meeting with Minister Fernando Velit. Cuadros, one of those dismissed by the Southern Peru Copper Corporation, is a member of the Constituent Assembly and thus has parliamentary immunity.

The Southern Peru Copper Corporation and CENTROMIN-Peru, a state enterprise that exploits central Andes mines, have offered to subsidize social property companies for those dismissed. This offer was rejected by the federation.

PERUVIAN TO MEDIATE HONDURAN-SALVADORAN QUESTION

PA221347Y Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1220 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] We bring a message of peace, said mediator Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero upon arriving at Toncontin International Airport, adding that the spirit of many countries is involved in the spirit of mediation. The children of Honduras voiced their hopes to the distinguished visitor: We want peace and the welfare of Honduras, Dr Bustamante, said a representative of the republic of Peru school in Tegucigalpa.

Jose Luis Bustamante y Riveros, in the Diplomatic Room of Toncontin International Airport, was presented to various representatives of the news media by Foreign Minister Roberto Palma Galvez, who highlighted the distinguished international jurist's virtues and qualifications. Bustamante y Rivero then issued his first message to the people, represented there by Honduran newsmen. He said: We have come--and I say we because we are really many--with a message of peace. I say we because the spirit of mediation also includes the spirit of many countries friendly to you and to El Salvador, who want peace and commend to me the mission of bringing those two peoples together again so they will renew their old ties of friendship.

In his brilliant impromptu statements, Bustamante y Rivero pointed out that he has accepted such an honorable but also so arduous a mission to give what will surely be his last service to the cause he has tried to defend all his life.

As you see, he said, I am no longer a young man, but I think I am living proof that vigor is not determined by age but by resolve, and my will is committed to the interests of Honduras and El Salvador--countries I love--so that the fraternal alliance will help me, God willing, find a solution, a rapprochement.

When different representatives of University, Catholic Church and private enterprise sectors were taken [illegible], they said: We have the mediation will and zeal so [illegible] in 1971 and 1976, part of agreement was reached even though a third party was involved in 1971 [illegible] Mora, former foreign minister and former [illegible] intervened; and in 1976 Antonio M. Bobeda, a Costa Rican [illegible] policy [illegible]

FOREIGN MINISTERS EXAMINING PEACEFUL RESOLUTION-MEDIATION EFFORTS

PA [illegible] Santiago [illegible] Alberto Dalmeres to Spanish [illegible]

[Text] Lima--The Chilean Navy commander, adm Jose Toribio Merino, [illegible] that the Chilean and Peruvian Foreign Ministries are studying the possibility of a meeting between Gen Augusto Pinochet and Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez.

A Radical Centrist Senator said that the meeting may be held [illegible] and he also said that there are no plans in Chile for a [illegible]

PRIME MINISTER REITERATES PROMISE OF ELECTIONS

PA151638Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1639 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 14 Aug (AFP)--Navy Minister Vice Adm Jorge Parodi [illegible] declared that the Peruvian Government will hold general elections "to elect a constitutional, democratic, free and independent government" as soon as the new constitution is approved.

Prime Minister Gen Oscar Molina announced 3 days ago that [illegible] if the Constituent Assembly finishes its work on the foreseen date, the elections might take place by mid-1979.

Parodi indicated that the prime minister's statement [illegible] that it has always been the view of the military government, particularly [illegible] President Morales Bermudez. General Molina had said that the call [illegible] elections is the fulfillment of the political timetable [illegible] principles that power will be turned over in 1980.

Asked [illegible] political observers, if the Constituent Assembly [illegible] the new [illegible] in the schedule [illegible] Parodi replied [illegible] this [illegible] the government [illegible] elections [illegible] 1979.

Military Parodi made his statements at the [illegible] Argentine Navy Chief Adm Emilio Eduardo [illegible] Vice Adm Hugo La Cueva Fry, who arrived [illegible] Naval Conference which begins [illegible].

CHILE

VENEZUELAN MINISTERS TO VISIT--Ulises Alberto Toscanini, [illegible] minister of foreign affairs, will arrive in Caracas on Wednesday for a brief official visit, during which he will meet with President Carlos Andres Perez, Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, the president of the Constituent Assembly, [illegible] [illegible] Caracas radio [illegible] 0400 GMT 24 Aug 78 PA]

URUGUAY'S POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED ON LAW OF SEA

PY221829Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] This conference is extremely important regarding the future because it has to do with the development of the country and sovereignty itself. These remarks were made to this radio station by Julio Cesar Lupinacci, under secretary of foreign relations, regarding the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea.

The under secretary will leave for New York this afternoon heading the Uruguayan delegation to the seventh session of the third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea. Lupinacci said that Uruguay already has a position on this matter and that this will be an opportunity to contact other colleagues of the continent.

[Lupinacci--begin recording] Uruguay has a well-defined position on this matter and maintains the same position as at previous meetings. [end recording]

HEALTH MINISTER PLANS VISIT TO USSR, HUNGARY

PY221738Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Public Health Minister Antonio Canellas will leave for Eastern Europe in the next few days. Canellas will leave on 2 September to visit the USSR and Hungary. In the USSR the minister will take part in a congress related to public health, while during his visit to Hungary he will visit the enterprise which supplies material and medical equipment to health centers in Uruguay.

VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA

FY230344Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Aug 78 FY

[Text] Venezuelan Ambassador to Bolivia Pedro Luis Echeverria has visited President Juan Pereda Asbun to present to him the official report confirming his nation's decision to continue diplomatic relations. The Venezuelan representative, who left for Caracas as soon as General Pereda assumed the presidency, said that once some misunderstandings have been cleared up, relations between the two countries continue their normal course.

Echeverria arrived at government palace a little past 1700, and at the end of the short meeting with the president he told Radio Panamericana the following: [Begin Echeverria recording] I have come to make a courtesy visit to President Juan Pereda to present to him the note through which we have normalized relations between Bolivia and Venezuela. President Pereda's visit to Bogota had been an appropriate occasion to hold a frank, open and important dialog with President Carlos Andres Perez. Through that dialog Venezuela has been able to understand the guidelines proposed by General Pereda, and we are now very satisfied at being able to fully resume not only our diplomatic but our friendly relations as well. [end recording]

The Venezuelan diplomat also said that he had told President Pereda that the note presented does not respond strictly to protocol but also to a brotherly action. He added that he had taken the opportunity to tell the president that a Venezuelan automobile industry delegation is visiting La Paz to discuss with their Bolivian counterpart the terms of the agreement signed a year ago.

He said that the provisions included in that agreement should be implemented as soon as possible. Regarding the interest of Venezuelan private businessmen in making investments in Bolivia, Echeverria stated: [Begin Echeverria recording] I have told the president about the interest of a very important Venezuelan business group in coming to Bolivia to contribute with the economic development of this country through joint investments [words indistinct] between Bolivians and Venezuelans. [end recording]

The Venezuelan ambassador indicated that in the beginning his government was concerned over the change of the Bolivian political image, but that everything became clear as Gen Pereda explained everything in Bogota, Colombia.

EL NACIONAL ANALYZES LUIS HERRERA'S OIL PROGRAM

PA221331Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 16 Aug 78 p A4 PA

[Rodofredo Gonzalez article: "Oil Consensus"]

[Text] "Oil Consensus" is the title Luis Herrera Campins gives to the chapter on oil policy to his government program, a title which is also a commitment and the best offer a presidential candidate can make to the nation. Luis Herrera made this offer to Venezuela last Thursday, 10 August, in Maracaibo.

The present government has tried to implement an oil policy of consensus following nationalization of the oil industry. It started by establishing the reversion commission. All political parties were represented in it and also the most diverse economic and social sectors: The Association of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FEDECAMARAS), pro-Venezuela, the Confederation of Workers of Venezuela (CTV), the Petroleum Workers Federation (FEDEPETROL), universities and professional associations. The bill submitted by the president was approved by consensus, but that was as far as the consensus went.

For reasons which still have not been explained, the bill was amended to the point that many of the dispositions received in Congress only votes from the official party. Afterward, many very important effects of the nationalization were interferred with and even distorted, with the signing of technological assistance and commercialization agreements, none of which was discussed with the parties and other institutions involved in the nationalization. They were not even submitted to Congress for approval, thus violating a constitutional mandate. The result has been that the present government does not have a national program for its oil policy, and oil has served only to satisfy the state's insatiable demands.

This same lack of an oil policy, technically planned and carried out in an orderly manner, demands from those who are seeking to manage the nation's destiny conscientious and responsible drafting of a program that in short, medium and long term confronts and solves the problems which already are threatening our oil industry's development.

We must admit that we are optimistic regarding Venezuela's oil future, but such optimism does not authorize us to be hasty or to improvise. The truth is that our known reserves of medium and light crude are diminishing alarmingly. It is not true, as some government spokesmen are saying, that setting the volume of production at 2.2 million barrels daily is part of a conservation policy. What is true is that such a volume is at the limit allowed by present production capacity. The serious part about this is that this capacity, due to the progressive drying up of oil deposits, is decreasing at a rate estimated at 20 percent per year.

A virtual threat of the industry's paralyzation will force the next government to undertake something that this government has neglected: An exploration policy capable of increasing our proved reserves. Contrary to what some official statistics deceivingly show, the truth is that the increases in reserves registered in recent years are not due to new discoveries, they are simple statistical manipulations resulting from a revision carried out due to an increase in oil prices. We realize that an exploratory program of such dimensions will require enormous investments, but these must be made without neglecting other fundamental aspects of the industry which also will demand big investments, such as changing the refinery procedure.

Another issue of great importance is the study and investigation of the Orinoco oil belt. So far we know that it is one of the biggest oil deposits in the world. Because of the peculiar consistency of its crude, however, it will require the development and use of special technology, most of which is still in the experimental stage.

All these problems and others such as local and international markets, human, technical and economic resources and Venezuela's position in OPEC are discussed in Luis Herrera's government program with the most realistic and sensible solutions suggested. Above all, however, the oil policy must be a policy of consensus, the product of "a patriotic understanding." Luis Herrera shows the way to turn the oil industry into an active factor for the nation's economic development.

SPANISH PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT VENEZUELA IN SEPTEMBER

PA2214Z1Y Caracas Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1511 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Caracas, 22 Aug (VENPRES)--According to an announcement made today by the press office of the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry, Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez will visit Venezuela during the first 2 weeks of September. The Spanish prime minister will arrive in Caracas at the invitation of the national government in return for a visit made by President Perez to Spain.

MEXICO PROPOSES STRATEGY TO LIMIT CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS

PA221726Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1516 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[By Marcelo Galan]

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Aug (LATIN)--Mexico has proposed the establishment of "a strategy" to regulate the use of conventional weapons and ban other weapons which have "cruel effects" in order to make Latin America "a true peace zone." The proposal was presented by Mexican Foreign Secretary Santiago Roel during the inaugural session of the first Latin American and Caribbean country meeting on conventional weapons which started yesterday in this capital.

Delegates from Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Dominican Republic, Surinam, Uruguay, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago are participating in the meeting, which will last until Friday.

In stating his proposal, the Mexican foreign secretary stressed that the idea is not "to disarm the armless" in a world in which last year arms expenditures amounted to more than $400 billion but to channel funds presently devoted to weapons to "more noble causes."

"A global strategy must be formulated to regulate the transfer of certain conventional weapons and to ban the use of others which have extremely cruel or indiscriminate effects," Roel said. He affirmed that the strategy would represent "an important step toward complete and general disarmament under efficient international control."

Addressing the representatives of 19 participating countries, Roel said that "we should start from the premise that the possibility of armed conflict will be diminished by reducing the use of weapons." He stated that the reduction in the use of the weapons in question would be "up to the extent permitted by the need of each country for internal security and the collective commitments in effect."

"It is clear, based on past experience, that arming oneself has not been an effective way to discourage an attack; the only effective way to avoid an attack is to strengthen mechanisms to maintain peace and promote a climate of trust among potential contenders," Roel noted.

Roel described the meeting, being held at the foreign secretariat installation in Tlatelolco, as "historic" because it will seek to integrate "a true zone of peace and, as such, we will set an example for the rest of the world," he said.

The foreign secretary invited "those countries which have doubts about the advisability of Latin America's limiting conventional weapons" to ponder the fact that arms suppliers, as a result of an agreement among themselves, "would try to form a club of suppliers in the future." He cited the example of nuclear suppliers who created the so-called "London Club" which, he said, "found the recipient countries openly disorganized."

Finally, the foreign secretary "deplored" the absence of "certain countries" of the region from the meeting. "We do not interpret their absence as a rejection of the objectives being sought but as a result of the hasty manner in which the meeting was convened," he said.

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUAN-COSTA RICAN BORDER CLOSED TEMPORARILY

PA222155Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2144 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] San Jose, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Costa Rican Public Security Ministry revealed this afternoon to ACAN-EFE that the Nicaraguan Government closed its border with Costa Rica today at noon (1800 GMT) at the very moment that the shooting took place at the Managua National Palace. The same sources said that the border was reopened a few minutes ago and that the situation in the Penas Blancas region is normal.

GOVERNMENT WILL ACCEPT SANDINIST PRISONERS

PA230636Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0626 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Text] At 0026 in San Jose, Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria is meeting with his principal advisers (words indistinct). We just spoke to him (words indistinct) and he told us that the Costa Rican Government is ready to accept the political prisoners currently imprisoned in Nicaragua to find a solution to the serious crisis in Nicaragua. I repeat, Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria has just announced that the Costa Rican Government is willing to accept the so-called Sandinist National Liberation Front members as long as they have their documents in order.

CALDERON FOURNIER REVIEWS RESULTS OF MEXICO VISIT

PA230125Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Station interview with Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier on results of talks between Costa Rica and Mexico; date, place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Calderon Fournier recorded] As many persons are aware, Costa Rica and Mexico signed technical, scientific and cultural cooperation agreements a few years ago. These agreements bind each country to help the other in the scientific, technical and cultural fields and to hold a meeting of the committees of the countries every 2 years. Each year the site of the meeting will alternate, first in Mexico and next in Costa Rica. The meeting will analyze what has been accomplished thus far, and will provide the opportunity for the two countries to request aid from each other in various fields. The Mexican delegation visited us 2 years ago, so it was our turn to visit our Mexican brothers. The Costa Rican delegation was made up of representatives from the various ministers. We were warmly greeted in Mexico. As usual, Mexico was generous with Costa Rica.

Mexico offered many scholarships for Costa Rican professionals interested in doing graduate work in Mexico. The Foreign Ministry will issue a note announcing the scholarships within the next few days. The scholarships will be for professionals who are seeking special training in Mexico and who will be able to do so because of the scholarships we obtained during this trip. At the same time, Mexico is willing to send Mexican technicians to provide all the technical aid needed to determine petroleum drilling areas in Costa Rica, which would obviously benefit all Costa Ricans. Mexico has also offered considerable help in the agriculture and cattle industry to give prompt rural development, which is one of the main objectives of this administration. Mexico offered its assistance to our educational television program which will become operational on 15 September. Mexico is a country with extensive experience in the television field and we can benefit greatly from it. We talked about our fishing problems and Mexico will send several technicians to teach modern techniques to our fishermen. We also discussed tourism. Mexico is a country which is quite prominent in the development of tourism and it will send technicians to talk to officials of the Costa Rican Tourism Institute. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

SANDINIST GUERRILLAS ATTACK NATIONAL PALACE; HOSTAGES TAKEN

Noon Attack

PA221930Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1925 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 22 Aug 78 (LATIN)--Shortly before noon a group of reported guerrillas attacked the National Palace, which houses the Finance and Government Ministries and the National Congress. The building was taken by surprise and the attackers took congressmen and top government officials hostage and closed all doors. Shortly afterward, the National Guard surrounded the block of the palace with infantry and armored tanks. The building is still surrounded and additional military forces are being deployed at the site in northern Managua, which is surrounded by debris left by the 1972 earthquake.

Details on Seizure

PA222051Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2027 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Units of the Nicaraguan National Guard armored battalion this afternoon were dispatched to the National Palace in northern Managua, allegedly seized by a guerrilla group. According to unofficial reports, an undetermined number of members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), briefcases in hand, entered the palace by different doors and, once inside, pulled out machineguns and ordered its closure. They immediately seized as hostages a deputy, several senators, government employees and reporters, among them Filadelfo Martinez, ACAN-EFE's chief and reporter.

At the moment, all contact with those inside the palace has been impossible since the guerrilla operation started shortly after noon (1900 GMT). The army's public relations office has given no information but promised an official communique within the next few hours.

The Sandinist guerrillas entered the National Palace while the Chamber of Deputies was in session. A large number of spectators were present due to the tone which the debates have taken between the government's Liberals and the opposition Conservatives.

Army soldiers control a broad area around the two-story National Palace building, which weathered the catastrophic earthquake that leveled the center of Managua in December 1972.

Bursts of machine gun fire are still being heard in the area of the military blockade, in which one Nicaraguan Air Force helicopter and one light plane are participating. It is still not known whether anyone was killed or wounded in the guerrilla attack.

Archbishop, Bishops To Mediate

PA222102Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2039 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 22 Aug (LATIN)--The guerrilla group which occupied the National Palace had not made any specific demands up to 2000 GMT. Archbishopric sources informed this news agency that they had received a telephone request to come to the National Palace to talk with the leader of the guerrillas. The guerrillas are presumably members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. The sources added that Archbishop of Managua Mngr Miguel Obando y Bravo and other bishops had agreed to be mediators and that arrangements were being made to drive them to the palace by car in order to begin negotiations.

"Monsignor Leovigildo Lopez Fitori , bishop of Granada, will accompany Monsignor Obando to mediate between the guerrillas and the government in order to prevent a fight," the sources said. The troops which had surrounded the palace received orders to permit the entry of the prelates and the guerrillas were warned not to shoot.

At least 15 Wounded

PA2222207Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2113 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] The following is a direct report from Managua by our correspondent reporting on the grave situation which now exists in that city: [correspondent--presumably live] An armed group took over the National Palace this afternoon, after which National Guard troops surrounded the area. So far the Red Cross has reported at least 15 persons wounded.

Military Issues Communique

PA2222145Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2131 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Army confirmed this afternoon that a group of rebels attacked the Chamber of Deputies at the Managua National Palace. In a brief communique signed by military spokesman Aquiles Aranda Escobar, the National Guard informed the people that "a group of rebels, dressed in olive drab and carrying firearms, attacked the Chamber of Deputies hall and took all the deputies as hostages." The official communique does not identify the attackers, nor does it mention the activities carried out by the army to rescue the deputies.

Among the hostages are Rene Pandino Arguello, representative of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party (opposition) and Luis Pallais Debayle, first cousin to President Anastasio Somoza and leader of the liberal bloc, which is the majority party in the legislative body. The state-owned radio and television has banned the broadcast of information on events at the National Palace.

Further on Communique

PA2223449Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2317 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 22 Aug (AFP)--In an official communique, the Nicaraguan Army has confirmed that members of both houses of congress are being held hostage by the armed group which took over the National Palace today. According to the communique, the palace was occupied at 1230 (1830 GMT) by a group of individuals who were dressed in olive drab clothing.

The authorities decided that the armed forces office will be the sole source of information and that all radio stations in the country will broadcast in network. Telephone communications with the building, which had been interrupted, were reestablished and several persons inside the palace called their homes to say that they would probably be able to leave by 1700. Those persons who were in the building at the time of the occupation are being held hostage by the guerrillas but those who do not represent any interest for their purposes will be allowed to leave, it was learned from telephone conversations.

The first and second alternate presidents, Francisco Urcuyo and Senator Pablo Leal, respectively, are also being held hostage.

The situation remains tense in the vicinity of the palace, where the National Guard has deployed all its strength.

Pedestrians are not allowed to circulate and newsmen are not permitted to approach the area.

On the other hand, the government has not made its position on the incident known. There is speculation that it is waiting for the rebels to issue their first statement.

Sandinist Demands Issued

PA2300102Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2315 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Panama City, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Sandinist National liberation Front [FSLN] in Nicaragua demands $10 million, the release of 100 political prisoners and airplanes to leave the country as ransom for the release of almost 500 hostages. This information was released by Filadelfo Martinez, ACAN-EFE's chief correspondent in Managua, who is a hostage inside the National Palace and who manged to contact Panama by telephone after being authorized to do so by the guerrillas.

Command chief "Zero" told ACAN-EFE that if the army attacks they will all die since the command is determined to "do or die." The same command leader said that during the shooting which followed the attack on the National Palace the army suffered four casualties: two officers and two soldiers. The guerrillas have one casualty who is being attended to by some doctor included among the approximately 500 hostages. All the Nationalist liberal Party deputies have been tied up by the Sandinist guerrillas, but they are well.

The FSLN command calls itself the Rigoberto Lopez Perez Command and they have named the operation "Death to Somozism-Carlos Fonseca Amador."

It took 5 minutes for the guerrillas to seize the National Palace. The hostages include deputies, Government Minister Antonio Mora, other government officials and hundreds of civilians, including 15 newsmen.

Monsignor Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, accompanied by three other Catholic bishops, entered the palace and was assigned by the FSLN command the task of taking a document with their demands to General Somoza.

The Red Cross evacuated approximately 20 wounded persons from the palace. Guerrilla "Zero-Uno," second in command of the operation, told ACAN-EFE that the political prisoners must be sent to Panama, Venezuela and Mexico. The ransom must also be distributed in Venezuela, Panama, Mexico and Costa Rica, according to explicit instructions in the document containing their demands. Another condition demanded by the guerrilla command is that two press communiques be broadcast over Nicaraguan radio and television.

The shooting ceased 2 hours after the attack began, which was at 1200 noon (1800 GMT). The guerrillas have established their headquarters in the second story of the National Palace. The attack began during working hours, thus accounting for the large number of hostages.

Cardiologist Dr Reynaldo Tucly is attending the deputies who have been tied up, some of whom suffered nervous disorders.

When the ACAN-EFE central in Panama established telephone contact with the National Palace, a guerrilla picked up the telephone and said: "This is the National Palace, free Nicaraguan territory."

The bishops who served as mediators have left the National Palace with four children who were among the hostages but were allowed to leave by the guerrilla command.

FSLN Leader Interviewed

PA230043Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0014 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Text] Panama City, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Commander Zero, top leader of the guerrilla operation which took over the Managua National Palace, has said that he will indiscriminately shoot all the hostages if the army intervenes. In a telephone conversation with this ACAN-EFE correspondent in Panama, the guerrilla leader of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] of Nicaragua said: "We have high-powered grenades, automatic rifles, gas masks and a large quantity of ammunition. There is no emergency plan. We can sweep the area with these."

Asked whether newsmen being held hostage would become targets in the rain of bullets, "Zero" said: "No, not them. We have to get them out of here. We are holding them apart, in another place. However, if Somoza attacks we cannot guarantee anyone's life."

The guerrilla added: "The lives of all these people and also of the guerrilla unit depends on General Somoza's respect for the lives of his deputies and the high-ranking officials who are being held."

What is the result of the operation so far, [he was asked]. "A complete success. Everyone's morale is high. We are sure of ourselves. We are right and the people are on our side." "We want general amnesty for Nicaraguan political prisoners, planes to take our comrades out of the country, $10 million and the publication of certain communiques by the press, radio and television," concluded the chief of the Rigoberto Lopez Perez Command. The command carries the name of the activist who, in 1956, killed Anastasio Somoza Garcia, the father of the current Nicaraguan president.

The Sandinist unit, which today carried out the "Death to Somozism-Carlos Fonseca Amador" operation is divided into two brigades, which have taken control not only of the legislative chambers, but also a number of ministries and offices located in the National Palace building. According to the chief of the operation himself, the guerrillas are wearing olive green clothing and handkerchiefs with the Sandinist colors (red and black) around their necks and they are using masks. Some of them are also wearing black berets.

Additional Interview Comments

PA230146Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0118 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales of ACAN-EFE]

[Text] Panama City, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--"Commander Zero," head of the group which seized the Managua National Palace today, said that the total number of hostages was about 500. In a telephone conversation with the ACAN-EFE correspondent he said that the Sandinist National Liberation Front chose the National Palace, site of the legislative body, as a target because the chamber represents the last legal remnant of the Somoza regime. "I cannot give you any other strategic detail," he said. When questioned on negotiations with the Nicaraguan Government, "Zero" said that they are going on at this time after Managua Archbishop Obando y Bravo visited President Somoza bearing the petition document drafted by the guerrillas.

He added that Luis Pallais Debayle, spokesman for the Liberal Party now in power and first cousin to President Somoza, is not a negotiator. "He speaks with the government only when the situation here becomes critical, when there is some emergency," Zero said.

"The number of hostages under our control is about 500. We are occupying only the second floor of the building where the legislative section is located and also the first floor in an indirect manner," he said.

"What is the meaning of indirect? This I cannot tell you."

"Has anything changed since our conversation an hour ago?"

"No, everything continues the same. The command is determined to win or die. I have already told you that there is no emergency plan. At the least sign of an attack we will destroy everything."

Further Remarks

PA2308585Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0825 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The guerrilla leader confirmed that the demands are for the release of the 100 political prisoners, $10 million in cash, airplanes to leave the country and the broadcasting of Sandinist communiques on radio and television.

If by 0700 in the morning the government has not met our demands, "we will face a decisive test," "Zero" added.

"What kind of test?"

"You can imagine, you can well imagine," he answered dryly with restrained nervousness.

"Zero, you promised last night to release the newsmen who are being held hostage but they are still there. Why?"

"We cannot as yet. There are from 2,500 to 3,000 persons here whom we must evacuate in an orderly manner."

"Does that mean you are going to release some hostages?"

"I cannot answer that question."

"What are your objectives?"

"We have several objectives. One, for the world to know how these people are dying and also to release our imprisoned companions, among other things."

"Do you know if the government's reply will soon be forthcoming?"

"We are waiting for the archbishop to bring us the reply at any moment. We have requested the cooperation of some ambassadors to evacuate the people in an orderly manner."

"Has there been any more shooting following the initial operation yesterday?"

"No, there has been no shooting."

"Has the army tried to close in on you and is it true that this is why you transferred the deputies and Minister Mora Rostran from the Congress sessions room to another area?"

"Yes, they tried to come closer. I cannot reply about the transfer."

"Is anyone inside wounded?"

"There are more than 10 civilian wounded. Here there are three who are seriously wounded. I want you to tell the world that the wounded and dead--apparently four--were caused by the indiscriminate attack by Somoza's guard, who care nothing about people's lives."

Thus ended the interview. "Zero" passed the telephone to ACAN-EFE correspondent Filadelfo Martinez, who was able to give us a little more information before shouting: "I am hanging up. They have just shouted that we must all stretch out on the floor."

Report From National Palace

PA230208Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0054 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez, ACAN-EFE correspondent inside the National Palace]

[Excerpt] Managua, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--A cease-fire was established 2 hours after the operation started. Only sporadic shots are now heard and they are far away. The guerrillas are demanding that the army, which has surrounded the building in a great display of power and soldiers, withdraw to within no less than 200m.

There are approximately 500 persons in the legislative room, but the total in the whole building could number several thousand. The whole building has been taken over by the guerrillas, who have formed brigades. The guerrillas identify themselves by number. The numbers heard most frequently are "Zero," who is the chief, and "One," "Two" and "Twenty-Three." They have walkie-talkies to exchange information and give orders from one room to the other. I do not know how many guerrillas there are and I have not even asked. This information is secret.

The hostages include Government Minister Antonio Mora, who takes over for General Somoza when he leaves the country on administrative matters. Another hostage is Luis Pallais Bayle, spokesman for the Liberal Party and General Somoza's cousin. He suffered a small wound on the forehead but is well and is acting as a contact between the guerrilla group and the government.

The most important thing is that the initial panic, which was very dangerous, has disappeared. Now there is a climate of confidence and calm. Everyone is talking. The absence of shots may be a key reason for the prevailing calm. Six wounded persons were evacuated by the Red Cross, and not 20 as initially reported. The wounded guerrilla is being cared for and is only slightly injured. The army sustained at least four casualties. It has been said that the journalists will be able to leave soon. Tell my family that I am well, that no one is seriously hurt.

Later Report

PA230734Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0750 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez, ACAN-EFE correspondent inside the National Palace]

[Excerpts] Managua, 23 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Shortly before midnight on Tuesday the guerrillas who are holding several thousand [as received] hostages gave the government an 8-hour deadline to meet their demands.

Managua Archbishop Msgr Obando y Bravo, who is acting as mediator together with two other prelates, announced that in view of the ultimatum by the Sandinists, Gen Anastasio Somoza's government has requested 24 hours.

"Uno," as the second in command of the Sandinists is known, confirmed early today, Wednesday, that none of the demands has been met and that negotiations are underway with the mediation of the bishops. One of them, Msgr Salazar y Espinoza, has remained inside the palace building. Archbishop Obando y Bravo and Msgr Lopez Situria left the building shortly after midnight to continue mediation efforts.

Meanwhile, a relative calm, very relative, prevails here considering the circumstances. The moment of greatest tension occurred after the nontime guerrilla attack when an earth tremor shook the palace last night. Several young people who were already upset by the situation suffered attacks of hysteria when the tremor occurred.

The negotiations appear to be going very slowly, but Monsignor Obando y Bravo told me that they will nevertheless continue.

It is believed that there are some 3,500 persons in various offices of the National Palace occupied by the guerrillas. The building houses the Parliament, several ministries and other state offices. Lights in some areas are off while other parts of the building are illuminated. Airconditioning units are operating normally.

Toward midnight it was said that military units are closing in on the palace. At 2345 (0545 GMT) the guerrillas took new security measures and transferred the Liberal deputies (government) to another area of the palace. Those of us who are in the congress wing do not know their location. They also took government Minister Antonio Mora Rostran with them.

Here in the sessions room of the chamber many people have overcome the tension and are sleeping on the floor. But many others remain awake, quietly thinking, while others are talkative. Some said that when the guerrillas entered the building at noon yesterday they first thought it was an army coup against Somoza since they were wearing uniforms, but later they saw the red and black flags of the Sandinist front and the insignias.

The command which occupied the National Palace killing four military men is called Rigoberto Lopez Perez in tribute to the man killed in 1956 by General and President Anastasio Somoza Garcia, father of the present chief of state. The operation was called "Carlos Fonseca Amador" in memory of one of the founders of the front who was killed 2 years ago in an armed clash with the army. The actions are directed by "Cero," "Uno" and "Dos." "Zero" is fully in command. "Dos" is a girl who is barely 22 and there are other women in the group.

They have just warned that if there is any sudden power outage no one must move and everyone must stay still. "Uno" confirmed while I was writing these lines that negotiations are underway and there is hope of a settlement being reached.

This was the voice of hope left us by Monsignor Obando y Bravo before leaving when he gave us his blessing. Except for my contacts with the ACAN-EFE central in Panama, the bishops are for us our only contact with the outside.

Most of Country Calm

PA230301Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Telephone report by Radio Reloj correspondent in Managua--presumably live]

[Excerpt] Nobody has been allowed to leave the National Palace premises except seven persons who were wounded and taken out about an hour ago. Their identities have not yet been established. The situation so far is apparently calm in the rest of the country. In view of recent disturbances by the opposition, however, new disturbances could take place tonight because many persons currently in the resistance ranks could decide to take strong action in view of today's events. So far, there has been no reaction on the part of the government aside from a communique released by the National Guard public relations department, giving a very brief report of incidents.

Evacuation of National Palace

PA230259Y San Jose Cadena de Emisoras Columbia in Spanish 0125 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Report by Yadira and Castillo Cejos, members of Managua Radio Corporacion staff-apparently live; SERCANO Network]

[Excerpt] There was shooting on both sides until approximately 1500. However, the National Guard stopped shooting occasionally because the lives of the persons who work in the National Palace were in danger, as were those of many persons who do not work there, but were there on business.

[Question] Has there been any report on dead and wounded?

[Answer] There has been no official report of this. Unofficially, there have been reports of several soldiers killed.

[Question] Well, Yadira, thank you, I want to thank you in the name of Radio Columbia for giving us such a detailed report. This further explains the reports which have been received on the news wires. One last question. Do you have the names of the senators and deputies as well as cabinet ministers and important persons who work in the Internal Revenue Department, which is also housed in the National Palace?

[Answer] In addition to Gen Samuel Diaz and Government Minister Jose Antonio Mora, it has been rumored that the hostages include Pablo Rener, Luis Pallais Debayle and several prominent persons in Nicaraguan politics.

We also wish to add that the government employees are being evacuated from the National Palace. Several airconditioning units have been removed on the ground floor and the employees are being taken out under close military vigilance. However, the employees are not sent directly home, but are taken to the general staff for careful questioning and interrogation. They will be sent home after that is completed.

Employees Allowed To Leave

PA230500Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0440 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 22 Aug (LATIN)--The guerrillas who are still occupying the National Palace, which houses cabinet ministers, the national Congress and other government departments, tonight permitted several hundred minor employees to leave, as a result of mediation by the archbishops of Managua, Mser Miguel Obando y Bravo, according to official sources.

According to government spokesmen, approximately 40 deputies, several cabinet ministers and other high-ranking officials as well as the newsmen who were covering today's Chamber of Deputy session remained as hostages. The Nicaraguan Red Cross said that its ambulances evacuated several wounded from the palace. The Red Cross said it will stay in the zone of operations, but its personnel will not give out any information until tomorrow.

Somoza Relatives Held Hostage

PA230531Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0443 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--A cousin and nephew of Nicarguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza are among the hostages being held by the Sandinist National Liberation Front in the National Palace of Managua. They are Luis Pallais Debayle, first cousin of the president and his spokesman in the legislative body as leader of the ruling Nationalist Liberal Party wing, and Jose Somoza Abrego, deputy and son of Gen Jose R. Somoza. Various media at first confused Somoza Abrego with his cousin Somoza Portocarrero, who is the president's son.

International Communism Blamed

PA230616Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0548 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 22 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The official radio of the Nicaraguan Government announced tonight that the Sandinist attack on the National Palace, the seat of the legislative branch, "stems from the armed penetration of international communism, which seeks to seize the country."

"Radio Nacional," which heads the national network, suspended its regular progamming to broadcast announcements related to the existing emergency in the country since two groups [columnas] of the Sandinist National Liberation Front staged a daring attack at noon, taking as hostages hundreds of persons who were attending the Chamber of Deputies session.

According to the latest announcement by the government station, the subversive action "obeys no other end than to seize power and turn it over to the communists to enslave our society."

Persistent rumors about the occupation tonight of Managua's water company by another Sandinist cell were denied by the same national radio station, which advised citizens not to heed rumors. Meanwhile, people are at home waiting for a last-minute communique by the army, promised 5 hours ago. The capital looks deserted, with no vehicles or pedestrians moving about. Television and theater programs were canceled while bombs could be heard in various sectors of the capital.

Government Responds to Demands

PA230953Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0910 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The legal and Public Relations Office of the National Guard has announced communique No 38 on the incidents at the National Palace when subversive elements entered the building and took the congressmen hostage.

On learning of the incident, the president of the republic called a permanent meeting of the Council of Ministers and National Guard general staff. Later the government accepted the mediation of Msgr Manuel Salazar y Espinoza, president of the episcopal conference and bishop of Leon; Msgr Leovigildo Lopez, bishop of Granada; and Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, who had their first contact early yesterday with the members of the Sandinist cell in the National Palace.

The bishops received a list of demands which was given to President Gen Anastasio Somoza. The seven-point list of demands is as follows:

1. General amnesty for all political prisoners held by the National Guard in all cities and towns of Nicaragua.

2. Release of 100 prisoners of the Sandinist National Liberation Front from various prisons who must be flown in airplanes to Mexico, Venezuela and Panama.

3. Publication of a revolutionary communique in all communications media--the written press, NOVEDADES, LA PRENSA and EL CENTROAMERICANO, and on the radio and television network three times a day, in the morning, at noon and in the evening.

4. Clearing the National Guard and military operations within 300 meters of the National Palace.

5. The government's acceptance of all the demands (?raised by the health sector).

6. The delivery of $10 million to the countries of Venezuela, Mexico, Panama, Cuba, Costa Rica and Nicaragua. In Nicaragua $1 million must be delivered to the Sandinist Rigoberto Lopez Perez operation.

7. Total guarantees for them to travel to Panama accompanying the hostages.

These demands were studied by the Council of Ministers and the National Guard general staff. The reply which was sent with the bishop is as follows:

We acknowledge receipt of your demands conveyed by the most excellent and reverend Msgr Manuel Salazar y Espinoza, Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo and Msgr Leovigildo Lopez. Before proceeding, as a requisite to entering into negotiations on the points raised, we want you to allow the evacuation of the dead and wounded and the release of women and children from the National Palace. We have carefully read the points raised which we are analyzing to reach a reasonable conclusion on the same. However, we feel that the fulfillment of your demands is conditioned to several circumstances which do not depend exclusively on the Government of Nicaragua. For this reason we require 24 hours of additional time to respond to your demands.

Managua National District, 23 August 1978.

Guerrillas Prepared To Execute Hostages

PA2212417Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1214 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Excerpt] Panama City, 23 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--"Dos," the young Sandinist guerrilla who is third in command in the operation to seize the National Palace in Managua, said that in a few minutes the guerrillas will begin to execute the hostages if Somoza does not yield to their demands. Three persons have already been placed in front of a makeshift execution wall in the legislative hall, where some eight guerrillas are controlling about 50 hostages, including deputies, onlookers who were attending the Congress session, government officials such as the minister of government, and reporters. Those placed in front of the execution wall, according to ACAN-EFE reporter in Managua Filadelfo Martinez, who is also being held at the palace as a hostage, are Liberal Deputies Francisco Argenal and Enrique Sanchez Cerdenio and Cuban newsman Luis Manuel Martinez, who work for the progovernment newspaper NOVEDADES of Managua.

"Dos," a young woman only 20 years old, refused to reply to a question about who would be the first to be executed. She said all the guerrillas agreed with the government's demand that the women and children being held hostage be evacuated, but first they are demanding that the government publish the communiques that have been handed out as a sign that they intend to meet the guerrillas' demands. "Dos" said that the Sandinist front's ideas are "convincing in themselves" and that the people of Nicaragua [words indistinct]. "We do not know who the first to be executed will be in the event Somoza refuses to yield to the demands. There are members of various branches and political tendencies," said Dos. Later, she stressed the need for the Nicaraguan Government to publish the communiques issued by the guerrillas, in which they explain the history of the Sandinist front, its ideological principles and its objectives. The communiques also include analyses of the present situation in the nation and a series of basic demands to the government, such as a solution to the hospital strike that has been affecting the nation since 20 July.

Newsman Filadelfo Martinez, who talked on the telephone following the conversation with Dos, said that there existed the general belief within the chamber that the very extensive communiques would begin to be published this morning, perhaps after publication in the press.

Names of Dead Given

PA221317Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1258 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[By Filadelfo Martinez of ACAN-EFE, held hostage by the guerrilla group which seized National Palace in Managua]

[Excerpts] Managua, 23 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The dawn has been tense. An army attack was feared and the guerrillas forced us to the floor, always holding us at gunpoint. Fortunately, the attack did not come, but tension did not decrease.

I have a list of the dead and wounded, but I want to give it as a tentative list. The dead, unconfirmed, are Capt Roger Alfaro, 2D Lt Ricardo Lara Lopez, soldier Benigno Cortes and sales inspector Rodolfo Acevedo. The known wounded are Oscar Vargas, Juan Corrales and newsman Rafael Baez. But there are more wounded. The Red Cross last entered the place at 0240 today to take some out. So far they have taken out 11. One persistent rumor is that there are more dead in other parts of the palace, but I have not been able to confirm this. Sandinist commander "Dos," a girl barely 22 years old, gave me permission to transmit this information.

International Airport Closed Indefinitely

PA231334Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1322 GMT 23 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Attention: We report that Las Mercedes International Airport in Managua, Nicaragua, has been closed indefinitely. The SAHSA [Honduran airline] flight which left Juan Santamaria Airport this morning flew over Managua and continued on to Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The same thing occurred with flight 312 of Taca Airlines, which was scheduled to make a stopover in Nicaragua. Las Mercedes Airport has been closed indefinitely by Nicaraguan authorities; thus, planes leaving Juan Santamaria International Airport will not stop in Managua.

DOMINICAN ARMED FORCES, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS

FL221540 [Editorial Report FL] Santo Domingo EL CARIBE on 17 August reports armed forces personnel changes made by the new president, Antonio Guzman Fernandez, which include the following appointments:

Maj Gen Rafael Adriano Valdez Hilario, secretary of state for armed forces and chief of the General Staff with temporary grade commander of the army 1st Brigade.
Rear Adm Francisco A. Amiama Castillo, commander of the navy with temporary grade of vice admiral.
Navy Capt Julio Cesar Ortiz Pena, deputy commander of the navy.
Col Alfredo Imbert McGregor, commander of the air force with temporary grade of major general.
Col Octavio de Jesus Jorge Pichardo, deputy commander of the air force and promoted to brigadier general.
Gen Mario Imbert McGregor, air force undersecretary.
Gen Enrique Perez y Perez, confirmed as commander of the army
Col Miguel Angel Alvarez Belen, deputy commander of the army and promoted to brigadier general.
Army Col Jesus Manuel Porfirio Mota Henriquez, promoted to brigadier general and named deputy chief of the Presidential Military Advisors Corps.
Army Lt Col Ramon de Jesus Rodriguez Landestoy, promoted to colonel and named chief of the presidential guard.
Maj Gen Guarionex Estrella Sadhala, commander of the army 2d Brigade.
Col Luis Segundo Miller Cespedes, army quartermaster general.
Brig Gen Jacobo Emilio Fernandez Mota, army undersecretary.
Rear Adm Rolando Polanco, navy undersecretary.

On 19 August, EL CARIBE reports appointments of government officials, including the following:

Vice President Jacobo Majluta, director general of the Dominican Corporation of State Enterprises (CORDE).
Eduardo Fernandez Pichardo, governor of the central bank
Gaetan Lucher, executive director of the State Sugar Council.
Eng Manuel E. Gomez Pieterz, director of the Dominican Center for Export Development (CEDOPEX).
Dr Gaonabo Fernandez Naranjo, attorney general of the republic.
Nelson [illegible] Mendez, National Palace press director.
Eng Adolfo Perez, director of the National Housing Institute (INAZUCAR).
Dr Frank Desueza Fleuri, director general of the Dominican Social Security Institute.

COMMUNIST GROUPS OPPOSE PRD GOVERNMENT, WILL OPERATE PUBLICLY

PA191309Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0201 GMT 18 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 17 Aug (EFE)--The 14 June revolutionary movement and proletarian flag, Marxist-Leninist revolutionary organizatons which are guided by the ideas of Mao Tse-tung, declared today that they oppose the new government of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD). During a joint national conference in which 130 delegates participated, the two organizations decided to operate publicly in view of the PRD's promise to establish a regime of political freedom.

The communist of the 14 June revolutionary movement accused the new government of favoring the dominant classes, international monopolist capital, the bourgeoisie and landowners.

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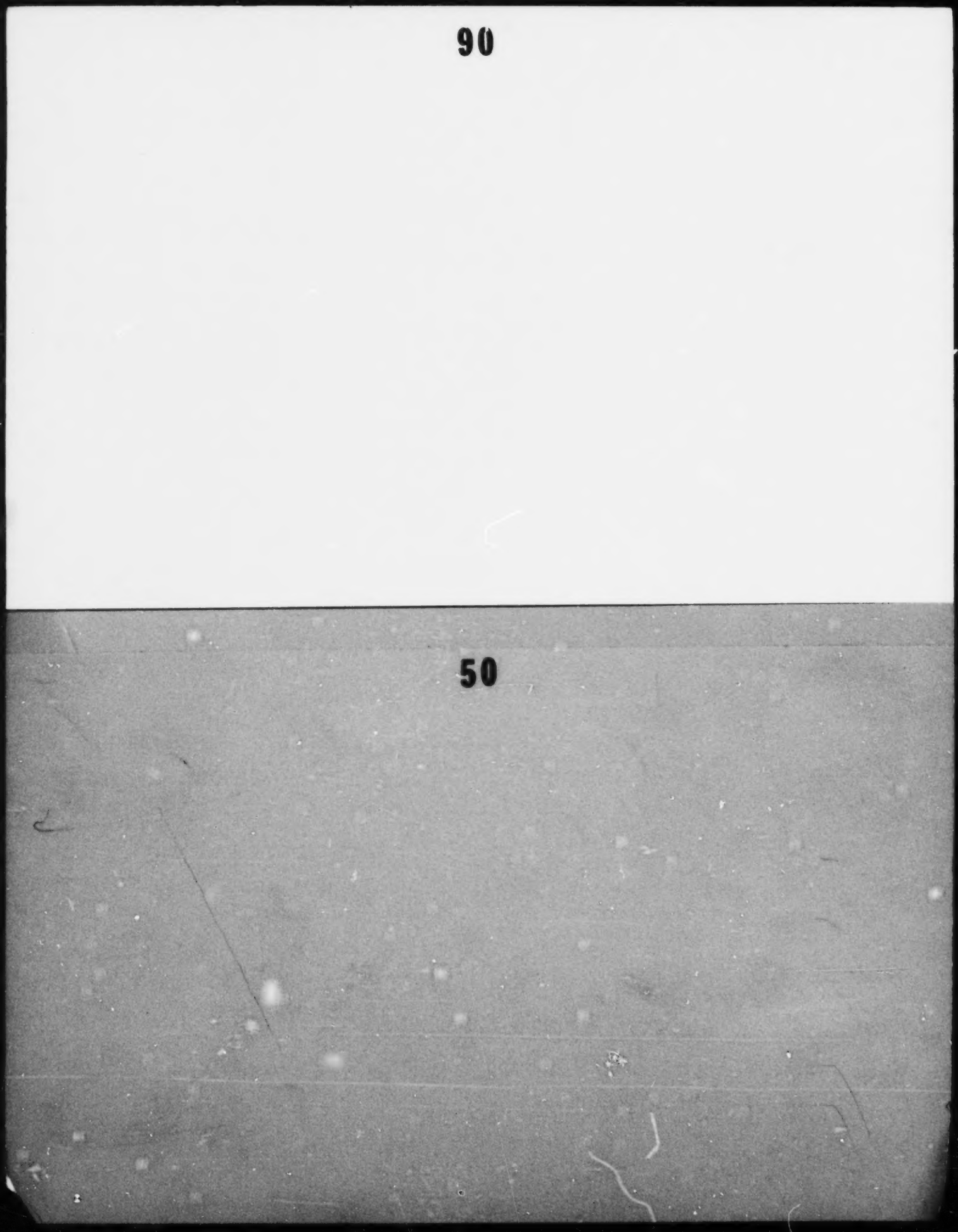
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